

participants. The Exchange believes it is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory to continue charging Priority Customers NDX orders at a generally lower rate than Non-Priority Customers NDX orders¹⁹ as the Exchange has historically provided more favorable pricing to Priority Customers in its Pricing Schedule.²⁰ Priority Customer orders bring valuable liquidity to the market by providing more trading opportunities, which, in turn, attracts Market Makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants in turn facilitates tighter spreads, which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow to the benefit of all market participants.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. In terms of inter-market competition, the Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive, or rebate opportunities available at other venues to be more favorable. As noted above, market participants are offered an opportunity to transact in NDX, NQX, or XND, or separately execute options overlying QQQ. Offering these products provides market participants with a variety of choices in selecting the product they desire to use to gain exposure to the Nasdaq 100 Index. Furthermore, the proposed fee amounts are in line with customer transaction fees and surcharges assessed on other products at another options exchange.²¹

Further, the Exchange does not believe that its proposal to begin

¹⁹ As described above, regular Priority Customer NDX executions will be assessed \$0.25 per contract under this proposal, and complex Priority Customer NDX executions will be assessed a total of \$0.50 per contract under this proposal (*i.e.*, base fee plus complex surcharge). Regular Non-Priority Customer NDX executions will continue to be assessed \$0.75 per contract. As it relates to complex Non-Priority Customer NDX executions, the Exchange notes that in certain instances, Non-Priority Customers may be assessed a lower complex fee in Section 4 than the \$0.50 complex fee proposed for Priority Customers. Specifically, Non-Priority Customers could be assessed the \$0.20 per contract complex Maker Fee for Non-Select Symbols (NDX is a Non-Select Symbol). However, the Non-Priority Customer complex Taker Fee for Non-Select Symbols still remains at a much higher level (\$1.10) than the \$0.50 complex fee proposed for Priority Customer NDX executions. See Options 7, Section 4.

²⁰ For example, Priority Customers presently receive free executions in regular and complex orders, as discussed earlier in this filing.

²¹ See *supra* notes 9 and 11.

assessing a \$0.25 per contract transaction fee for all Priority Customer NDX orders and \$0.25 per contract surcharge for complex Priority Customer NDX orders will impose an undue burden on intra-market competition because Priority Customers will continue to be assessed more favorable pricing than Non-Priority Customers for NDX orders, which is in line with how the Exchange historically assessed fees for these market participants. As discussed above, Priority Customer order flow enhances liquidity on the Exchange for the benefit of all market participants.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were either solicited or received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act²² and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)²³ thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number SR-ISE-2023-36 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

²² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

²³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

All submissions should refer to file number SR-ISE-2023-36. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-ISE-2023-36 and should be submitted on or before January 10, 2024.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.²⁴

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023-27914 Filed 12-19-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Data Collection Available for Public Comments

ACTION: 60-Day notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Small Business Administration (SBA) intends to request approval, from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the collection of information described below. The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) requires federal agencies to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information before submission to OMB,

²⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice complies with that requirement.

DATES: Submit comments on or before February 20, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments to Renee Mascarenas, Accountant, Denver Finance Center, Small Business Administration, Denver, CO 80202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Renee Mascarenas, Accountant, Denver Finance Center, renee.mascarenas@sba.gov, 303-844-7179, or Curtis B. Rich, Agency Clearance Officer, 202-205-7030, curtis.rich@sba.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SBA Form 172 is only used by lenders for loans that have been purchased by SBA and are being serviced by approved SBA lending partners. The lenders use the SBA Form 172 to report loan payment data to SBA within 15 business days of receipt of payment. The purpose of this reporting is to (1) show the remittance due SBA on a loan serviced by participating lending institutions (2) update the loan receivable balances.

Solicitation of Public Comments

SBA is requesting comments on (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the agency to properly perform its functions; (b) whether the burden estimates are accurate; (c) whether there are ways to minimize the burden, including through the use of automated techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) whether there are ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information.

Summary of Information Collection

Collection: 3245-0131.

(1) Title: Transaction Report on Loans Serviced by Lender.

Description of Respondents: SBA Lenders.

Form Number: SBA Form 172.

Total Estimated Annual Responses: 1,012.

Total Estimated Annual Hour Burden: 9,636.

Curtis Rich,

Agency Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2023-27903 Filed 12-19-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8026-09-P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

[Docket No. SSA-2023-0047]

Rate for Assessment on Direct Payment of Fees to Representatives in 2024

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Social Security Administration (SSA) is announcing the assessment percentage rate under the Social Security Act (Act) is 6.3 percent for 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mona B. Ahmed, Associate General Counsel for Program Law, Office of the General Counsel, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401. Phone: (410) 965-0600, email: Mona.Ahmed@ssa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A claimant may appoint a qualified individual as a representative to act on their behalf in matters before the SSA. If the claimant is entitled to past-due benefits and was represented either by an attorney or by a non-attorney representative who has met certain prerequisites, the Act provides that we shall withhold up to 25 percent of the past-due benefits and use that money to pay the representative's approved fee directly to the representative.

When we pay the representative's approved fee directly to the representative, we must collect from that fee payment an assessment to recover the costs we incur in determining and paying representatives' fees. The Act provides that the assessment we collect will be the lesser of two amounts: a specified dollar limit; or the amount determined by multiplying the fee we are paying by the assessment percentage rate.¹

The Act initially set the dollar limit at \$75 in 2004 and provides that the limit will be adjusted annually based on changes in the cost-of-living.² Currently, the maximum dollar limit for the assessment is \$117, as we announced in the **Federal Register** on October 23, 2023 (88 FR 72803).

The Act requires us, each year, to set the assessment percentage rate at the lesser of 6.3 percent or the percentage rate necessary to achieve full recovery of the costs we incur to determine and pay representatives' fees.³ Based on the best available data, we have determined that the current rate of 6.3 percent will continue for 2024. We will continue to review our costs for these services on a yearly basis.

Chad Poist,

Deputy Commissioner, Office of Budget, Finance, and Management, Social Security Administration.

[FR Doc. 2023-27955 Filed 12-19-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191-02-P

¹ 42 U.S.C. 406(d), 406(e), and 1383(d)(2).

² 42 U.S.C. 406(d)(2)(A) and 1383(d)(2)(C)(ii)(I).

³ 42 U.S.C. 406(d)(2)(B)(ii) and 1383(d)(2)(C)(ii)(II).

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 12288]

Designation of Mohamed Ali Nkalubo and Ahmed Mahamud Hassan Aliyani as Specially Designated Global Terrorists

Acting under the authority of and in accordance with section 1(a)(ii)(B) of Executive Order 13224, as amended ("E.O. 13224" or "Order"), I hereby determine that the persons known as Mohamed Ali Nkalubo (also known as Meddie Nkalubo and Meddie Lee) and Ahmed Mahamud Hassan Aliyani (also known as Ahmed Mahmoud Hassan and Ahmad Mahmoud Hassan) are leaders of ISIS-DRC, an entity whose property and interests in property are currently blocked pursuant to a determination by the Secretary of State pursuant to E.O. 13224.

Consistent with the determination in section 10 of E.O. 13224 that prior notice to persons determined to be subject to the Order who might have a constitutional presence in the United States would render ineffectual the blocking and other measures authorized in the Order because of the ability to transfer funds instantaneously, I determine that no prior notice needs to be provided to any person subject to this determination who might have a constitutional presence in the United States, because to do so would render ineffectual the measures authorized in the Order.

This notice shall be published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: December 6, 2023.

Antony J. Blinken,
Secretary of State.

[FR Doc. 2023-27995 Filed 12-19-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-AD-P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

30-Day Notice of Intent To Seek Extension of Approval of Collection: Demurrage Liability Disclosure Requirements

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Surface Transportation Board (STB or Board) gives notice of its intent to seek approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for an extension of the collection of Demurrage Liability Disclosure Requirements, as described below.